

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Noriyuki YAMAMOTO et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit: 2168
Application No.: 10/509,278)	
)	Examiner: Jay A. MORRISON
Filed: September 27, 2004)	
)	Confirmation No. 7653
For: INFORMATION SEARCH)	
SYSTEM, INFORMATION)	<u>VIA EFS WEB</u>
PROCESSING APPARATUS)	
AND METHOD, AND)	
INFORMATION SEARCH)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD)	

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance mailed January 25, 2010. Without withdrawing the allowed claims from issue, Applicants submit these comments for the record.

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner provided a statement of reasons for allowance. Although Applicants agree with the Examiner's ultimate conclusion that the claims are allowable for at least the reasons stated by the Examiner, Applicants submit that the claims are allowable not just for those reasons. Applicants submit that the claims are allowable at least because they recite combinations of patentable features, including those not mentioned in the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's characterization of Kikugawa, or with the Examiner's statement that Kikugawa is the "closest" prior art reference. Moreover, Applicants do not subscribe to the Examiner's paraphrasing of the claims which is inconsistent with the actual claim language.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of these Comments, please charge the fee to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 22, 2010

By: 

James D. Stein
Reg. No. 63,782
202.216.5118